

Community Weekly Time Lion

Hear us Roar



May 5 - May 9

Armenian Heritage Month

Asian Heritage Month

Jewish Heritage Month

Polish Heritage Month

Speech and Hearing Month

Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month

Monday, May 5	Day 1	Disney or Marvel Spirit Day
Tuesday, May 6	Day 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none">4PM-5PM Kindergarten Orientation
Wednesday, May 7	Day 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none">EQAO Administration Begins
Thursday, May 8	Day 4	
Friday, May 9	Day 5	

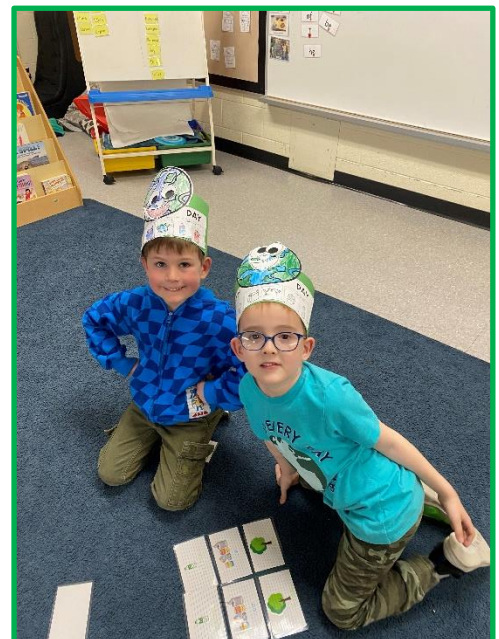
Upcoming Events

May Open House – May 15 5PM-6:30PM

School Council Meeting – June 3 6:00PM

Grade 8 Commencement – June 17 (revised date)

Earth Week Recognition





Terra Cotta Cookie Fundraiser – School Council

Thank you, families, for your support. School council raised over \$2000.00 through this fundraiser to support student hands on instructional materials and student excursions.

Days/Months of Significance

Message from HWDSB Equity and Inclusion Team

Asian Heritage Month

Across Canada, the month of May is recognized as Asian Heritage Month and is dedicated to celebrating the contributions of Canadians of Asian descent from over 30 countries that make up the Asian diaspora. The term Asian is broad and inclusive, encompassing a broad range of nationalities, languages, and ethnicities.

In December of 2001, Senator Vivienne Poy proposed a motion that was adopted by the Senate of Canada, designating May as Asian Heritage Month nationally. During May of 2002, the Government of Canada made this motion official by signing a declaration to designate May as Asian Heritage Month.

Asian Heritage Month is an opportunity for all Canadians to learn more about the many achievements and contributions of Canadians of Asian descent who, throughout our history, have done so much to make Canada the amazing country we share today. Too often, the experiences and histories of Asian Canadians are left out or minimized within our learning spaces. This must change.

At HWDSB, we must strive to create safe and caring learning environments that respect, promote, and protect the human rights of Asian students, staff, and communities. Thank you for celebrating Asian Heritage Month as part of our ongoing work within the HWDSB Human Rights and Equity Action Plan.

Armenian Heritage Month

Armenian heritage is steeped in complex history that includes tremendous contributions to Hamiltonian culture, community and beyond. In recognition and celebration of Armenian resiliency and contributions, the Legislative Assembly of Ontario proclaimed May as Armenian Heritage Month. May 28th is celebrated by those of Armenian heritage and descent as the day Armenia regained sovereignty over their historical territory after centuries of colonization, occupation, and genocide.

HWDSB recognizes the many contributions and achievements Armenian Canadians in many areas of our society, including arts, sports, science, and literature during the month of May and throughout the year. We also acknowledge the ongoing challenges and barriers faced by the Armenian community. We are committed to making classrooms and schools safe and inclusive spaces for everyone and must combat all forms of hate and discrimination in our schools and greater communities.

Jewish Heritage Month

In 2012, the province of Ontario designated May as Ontario Jewish Heritage Month. Later in 2017, Canadian Jewish Heritage Month legislation was introduced in the Senate of Canada, designating the month of May as a time to remember, celebrate and educate future generations about the important Contributions that Jewish Canadians have made to Canada's social, economic, political, and cultural fabric.

Canada is home to the fourth largest Jewish population in the world and Ontario has the largest Jewish population in the country, with rich historical and cultural roots right here in Hamilton. Supporting all learners in HWDSB during Jewish Heritage Month and beyond helps build inclusion and acceptance in schools and classrooms.

Polish Heritage Month

The Legislative Assembly of Ontario declared May as Polish Heritage Month in 2021. Those of Polish heritage and descent represent a rich tapestry of positive contributions, both past and present, made by this community. For context, May 3rd is widely celebrated by the Polish to commemorate the 1791 constitution, which is a symbol of Poland's aspiration for freedom, democracy, and independence.

HWDSB learns about and celebrates the rich heritage, histories, cultures, traditions of the Polish Canadian community during Polish Heritage Month and beyond. It is also a time to reflect on the roles and contributions made in our local community.

National Speech and Hearing Month

National Speech and Hearing Month, initially known as Better Speech and Hearing month originated in 1927 with support of the American Speech and Hearing Association (ASHA). This designation draws awareness to Audiologists and Speech-Language Pathologists as regulated health professionals, as well as

illustrate the support they can offer to individuals who may be experiencing difficulties with their communication and or hearing. As of 2006, the Legislative Assembly of Ontario released Bill 116 to proclaim Better Hearing and Speech Month as acknowledgement to the important role these professionals play in ensuring accessible and holistic spaces for those of all capacities.

During National Speech and Hearing Month, and throughout the year, HWDSB honours and celebrates the outstanding achievements and contributions of all professionals related to speech and language pathology, past and present, in our schools, workplaces, the Hamilton community and beyond. We also recognize there is still much work that needs to be done to reduce barriers and create a truly equitable society.

Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month

May is Sexual Violence Prevention Month in Ontario. In other locations, the month may be referred to as Sexual Assault Awareness Month (SAAM). In 2022, the Ontario Coalition of Rape Crisis Centres (OCRCC) shifted from the language of awareness to prevention.

At HWDSB, we recognize and are committed to creating cultures of consent. This approach is rooted in teaching students about bodily autonomy, respecting boundaries, and healthy relationships. Educating students about the skills of consent provides them with the skills to leave or tell someone about situations that feel uncomfortable, to respect other's boundaries, and to help prevent sexual coercion, harassment, and assault.

While anyone can experience sexual violence, social and systemic issues have a role to play in the prevalence of sexual violence. As a result, some people are more vulnerable to being targeted for acts of sexual violence than others. We recognize that it takes a community to end sexual violence and HWDSB has partnered with organizations like the Sexual Assault Centre of Hamilton (SACHA),

Interval House of Hamilton, and the Woman Abuse Working Group (WAWG) to bring consent education to educators, caregivers, and students.